

# LOS ANGELES COUNTY

## COMMISSION ON HIV HEALTH SERVICES

600 South Commonwealth Avenue, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor • Los Angeles, CA 90005 • TEL 213.351.8127 • FAX 213.738.9371

*Signing-in constitutes public notice of attendance. Sign-in is not required by meeting participants.*

*Presence at meetings is recorded solely based on sign-in sheets.*

*Not signing-in constitutes absence for Committee members.*

*Only members of Commission on HIV Health Services enjoy voting privileges.*

*Committee members cannot vote who have not signed in.*

**Approved**  
**February 12, 2004**

### COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES January 8, 2004

MEMBERS PRESENT	MEMBERS ABSENT	OTHERS PRESENT	STAFF PRESENT
Al Ballesteros, <i>Co-Chair</i>	Nettie DeAugustine, <i>Co-Chair</i>	Elissa Bradley	Elizabeth Boyce
Ruben Acosta	Jayne Adams	Marlene Daniel	Steve Erickson
Robert Butler	Adrian Aguilar	Alex Garcia	Maxine Franklin
Charles Carter	Carla Bailey	Miki Jackson	Patricia Gibson
Ruth Davis	Carrie Broadus	Elliot Johnson	Cheri Holloway
Richard Eastman	Nancy Eugenio	Maxine Liggins	Jane Nachazel
Whitney Engeran	Alexander Gonzales	Luis Lopez	Vicky Nagata
Gunther Freehill	Marc Hauptert	Virginia Page	Ijeoma Nwachuku
William Fuentes	Wilbert Jordan	Mona Patel	Rene Seidel
David Giugni	Edric Mendia	David Pierba	Jim Stewart
Michael Gray	Chris Perry	Neisha Reynolds	Craig Vincent-Jones
John Griggs	Alexis Rivera	Natalie Sanchez	
Charles Henry	Fontaine Shockley	Alex Torrez	
Rebecca Johnson-Heath/ Starla White		Gary Vrooman	
		Charles Williamson	
Marcy Kaplan		Jan Wise	
Brad Land/Dean Page		Patricia Woody	
Michael Lewis			
Anna Long			
Andrew Ma			
Elizabeth Marte			
Dani Mejia/John Caranto			
Vicky Ortega			
John Palomo			
Mark Parra			
Dana Pierce-Hedge			
Wendy Schwartz			
Paul Scott/Richard Hamilton			
Vanessa Talamantes			
Kevin Van Vreede			
Kathy Watt			
Fariba Younai			

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mr. Ballesteros called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m., and announced that Mr. Land would assist help him chair the meeting in Ms. DeAugustine's absence.
- II. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** The Co-Chairs' Report was moved until after the Standing Committee Reports. The agenda was then approved without objection (**MOTION #1**).
- III. **APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:** The minutes of the December 11, 2003 meeting were unanimously approved with the following alterations indicated in *italics* (**MOTION #2**):
  - Ms. Ortega reported on ... a study of ~~methadone~~ *crystal meth* use among MSM.
  - Mr. Land thanked and acknowledged Ms. Reynolds, ~~Fifth District Deputy~~, *from the Fifth District*

- Mr. Eastman ... announced that the U.S. District Court Judge *Howard Matz* sentenced *Howard Mass Scott Imler...* and also announced the next Medical Marijuana Task Force meeting on ~~February 28, 2004~~ March 13, 2004.
- Mr. Freehill ~~reported on the UWA research delivery model~~ ... and indicated that the model for food eligibility is *not* based on a geographic estimate of need.

IV. **PARLIAMENTARY TRAINING:** There was no report.

V. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** Mr. Torrez introduced himself, and announced that there was a possibility that he would be appointed to the First District seat.

V. **PREVENTION PLANNING COMMITTEE (PPC) REPORT:** Ms. Watt reported on the PPC's all-day meeting on January 6, 2004 focusing on the needs assessment, and announced that the next PPC meeting would be on January 22, 2004. Mr. Freehill reported that the presentations were geared towards prevention, especially epidemiological and geographic representation. They also reported that Dr. Fielding, LA County Public Health Officer, attended the meeting and indicated his opposition to shutting down bath houses and sex clubs, but addressed the responsibilities for which they must be held accountable.

X. **STATE OFFICE OF AIDS (OA) REPORT:** Ms. Pierce-Hedge reported the following:

- She reported that there was still little information available about the impending health and welfare cuts that the Governor was going to propose. She noted that there had been Finance Committee hearings, but so far, nothing specific had resulted. Capping ADAP has been an idea that a number of people have been discussing because approximately \$68 million of ADAP comes from the State's General Fund.
- Tom McCaffrey ~~had been reported~~ *is* the new Deputy Director of Health and Human Services, replacing David Soulalis.
- The AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) wait list did not take effect January 1, 2004; any ADAP cap would require the OA to implement and use an ADAP waiting list.
- OA has been discussing cost-containment strategies for the ADAP program. ~~and~~ *Local jurisdictions are* dealing with the challenges of cutbacks in viral load and resistance testing.
- With all of the circumstances of potential cuts and other factors, OA has lost numerous staff.

Mr. Land inquired about whether state contributions to SSI would be cut. Ms. Pierce-Hedge indicated she could check on that matter, and would arrange a presentation on benefits issues at a future meeting. Discussion continued on:

- The Governor's proposed \$15 billion bond measure: Ms. Pierce-Hedge said that there were no specifics yet available;
- The state's Maintenance of Effort (MOE) and matching fund requirements: It is important to remind people, she advised, that the State also has matching fund requirements with which it must comply in order access Federal funding;
- The impact of proposed cutbacks on undocumented citizens: OA programs are blind to status, *she replied*, and that information is not compiled; and
- Ms. Pierce-Hedge counseled that any program receiving State General Funds is vulnerable and reminded people about the importance of offsets. (Does a proposed cut actually end up costing the state more in other types of costs?).

Mr. Engeran indicated the JPP had a large community meeting to discuss issues related to the proposed cutbacks, and was forwarding a resolution opposing any budget cuts or service curtailments. Mr. Freehill then reported on the timeline for the state budget, noting that specifics would be changing regularly through the Governor's "May Revise" and the legislature's required July deadline.

Mr. Vrooman, Being Alive—*South Bay*, reported on the California Disability Community Action Network teleconferencing meetings on January 12, 2004 from 1:00 – 2:45 p.m. Mr. Vrooman said he would send the information to the Commission office, which would be forwarded to the Commission membership.

VII. **OAPP REPORT**

- A. **RFP Solicitation Process:** Mr. Henry reported on the RFP application and appeals process and on client eligibility standards. He emphasized the need to target services towards those most in need and those most disenfranchised, and that ways of doing that included modifying program design and using eligibility requirements. He went on to explain the solicitation process for the five RFPs released in Year 13 and the process for two other categories to be released by the end of Year 13: SPA 8 Service Provider Network (SPN)/capacity building and client advocacy. He noted that by February 2004 medical outpatient rate review consultants would be secured.

He further described modifications of program design and contracts recommended to the Board of Supervisors for the five categories of peer support, language services, legal services/permanency planning, food services and child care. He proceeded to highlight the goals of the service modifications and the appeals process for RFPs, noting that no appeals were submitted for proposals. He also reviewed the eligibility requirements for all service categories and new requirements implemented in Year 13 affecting the child care, peer support, legal services and food services categories. Finally, he explained the roles of the Planning Council, OAPP and service providers related to creating further eligibility requirements.

In the ensuing discussion, Mr. Henry responded to questions related to peer support services, child care services, services for undocumented citizens, food services, and the review process. Concerning the food voucher issue, Mr. Henry emphasized the cost-efficiencies of food pantries compared to food vouchers. In response to Ms. Marte's inquiry about child care services, he indicated there were no restrictions on services for undocumented clients. It was also noted that certification training for peer support services is available in English and Spanish. Ms. White expressed concern about the closure of previously funded child care facilities. Mr. Henry suggested that those facilities might be able to become part of the new child care network created through the recent solicitation process, and suggested that anyone with child care questions contact Libby Boyce on the OAPP care services staff.

## XI. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

### A. Joint Public Policy Committee

1. ***Proposed State Budget Cuts***: Mr. Engeran presented a resolution opposing proposed State budget cuts to health and HIV services. Ms. Schwartz reported that a similar resolution was introduced to the Los Angeles City Council. After the Commissioners offered additional language changes, including adding language on prevention services, the Commission approved the resolution. (**MOTION #3**). Mr. Engeran also recommended that the District representatives meet with their respective Health Deputies to brief them about the resolution, and in order to prepare it coming forward to the Board.

### B. Priorities and Planning Committee

1. ***Priority- and Allocation-Setting Process***: Mr. Land reported that the P&P, SOC and Finance Committees met to discuss the priority- and allocation-setting process, and that a presentation on the process would be made at the next meeting. Information on the IRB process and the Care Services Survey would be included in the presentation. In addition, the Committee Co-Chairs would need to present this information at their respective committee meetings.

2. ***Commissioner Pledge***: There was no report.

### C. Standards of Care Committee: Dr. Younai reported on progress of the dissemination strategy for the standards, and announced that the AETCs would make a combined presentation about their role at a future Commission meeting.

1. ***December Outcomes Training***: Dr. Younai reported that Dr. Kathleen Clanon made a presentation on HRSA requirements and quality management at the Commission-sponsored Outcomes Training on December 18, 2003. Medical providers and Commissioners participated in the training, but there were only a few participants. Dr. Younai acknowledged that the date might have been too close to the holidays, but expressed concern about the low attendance. She told the body that they would repeat the training in the Spring.

### D. Recruitment, Diversity and Bylaws Committee: Mr. Butler reminded all committees to hold Co-Chair elections before their March meetings.

1. ***Ordinance Review***: He reported that the RD&B Committee would meet on January 28, 2004 at 10:00 a.m. to develop recommendations for ordinance changes related to jurisdiction and structure. He further reminded Committees to keep attendance records and to update members' contact information.

### E. Finance Committee: Reporting to the question on the viral load testing brought at the previous Commission meeting, Mr. Ma noted the public health lab indicated they expect to expend the \$2.5 million of re-allocated funds. He said he will update the Commission on this matter again the following month. He also reported on progress on the Committee's follow-up to the annual meeting and on the Finance Committee orientation.

## VI. CO-CHAIR'S REPORT

A. **At-Large Elections**: Mr. Ballesteros inquired if there were any additional nominations for the three at-large Executive Committee seats, no additional nominations were submitted and nominations were then closed. Mr. Stewart then informed Commissioners that they could vote for three candidates among the following nominees: Mr. Acosta, Ms. Broadus, Ms. Johnson-Heath, Ms. Ortega, Mr. Scott and Ms. Talamantes. He noted that ballots were not allowed according to the Brown Act, and, thus, votes would be made by roll call. Each candidate who was present then briefly explained his or her qualifications and reasons for wanting to serve on the Executive Committee. In the ensuing vote, Ms. Talamantes and Ms. Johnson-Heath received the two highest numbers of votes and were elected to two of the at-large Executive Committee seats. Since Ms. Ortega and Mr. Acosta had each received 13 votes, the Commission took an additional roll call vote to select between the two candidates. Mr. Acosta was elected to the third at-large Executive Committee seat.

B. **Commission Transition Update:** Mr. Ballesteros reported that after the first round of interviews for the Executive Director position, DHR had promulgated a list of candidates. Mr. Engeran urged the Commission Co-Chairs to communicate to DHR the importance of community input into the selection process.

XII. **COMMISSIONER COMMENT:** Commissioners offered the following comments:

- Mr. Eastman reported that bus passes were arriving late. Mr. Henry agreed to report on this matter at the next Commission meeting. He then encouraged Commissioners to call the office in advance if there were questions that they wanted addressed by him at the meeting, so that he could get the information and come prepared to the meeting.
- Ms. Ortega announced she would be facilitating a community forum on transgenders within the HIV disease on January 12, 2004 at Children's Hospital.
- Ms. Johnson-Heath thanked Commissioners for electing her to the Executive Committee seat.
- Mr. Hamilton announced Black AIDS Awareness activities at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Parade on January 9, 2004 and during February, noting that National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Week was scheduled for January 31-February 8, 2004. For more information call (323) 299-5599.
- Mr. Fuentes requested more literature and posters for the information table.
- Mr. Engeran announced a gay men's health summit on February 20, 2004 in Long Beach, and offered to provide copies of the approved resolution on the state budget cuts upon request.

XIII. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Mr. Vrooman announced that LACSHAC would meet January 14, 2004 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Citadel in Los Angeles. He offered that he could be contacted at 310-212-6807 for more information.

XIV. **ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

<b>MOTION AND VOTING SUMMARY</b>		
<b>MOTION #1:</b> Approve the Agenda.	<i>Passed by Consensus</i>	<b>Motion Passes</b>
<b>MOTION #2:</b> Approve the minutes of the December 11, 2003 Commission meeting with the following alterations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Ms. Ortega reported on ... a study of <del>methadone</del> <i>crystal meth</i> use among MSM.</li> <li>▪ Mr. Land thanked and acknowledged Ms. Reynolds <del>Fifth District Deputy</del>, <i>from the Fifth District</i>.</li> <li>▪ Mr. Eastman ... announced that <del>the</del> U.S. District Court Judge Howard Matz sentenced <del>Howard Mass Scott Imler...</del> and also announced the next Medical Marijuana Task Force meeting on <del>February 28, 2004</del> March 13, 2004.</li> <li>▪ Mr. Freehill <del>reported on the UWAI research delivery model</del> ... and indicated that the model for food eligibility is <i>not</i> based on a geographic estimate of need.</li> </ul>	<i>Passed by Consensus</i>	<b>Motion Passes</b>
<b>MOTION #3, Amendment:</b> Amend language to proposed resolution opposing State budget cuts to health and HIV services.	<i>Passed by Consensus</i>	<b>Motion Passes</b>
<b>MOTION #3:</b> Approve amended resolution opposing State budget cuts to health and HIV services.	<i>Passed by Consensus</i>	<b>Motion Passes</b>